

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-14 remain in the application with claims 1-5 and 7-13 having been amended hereby and claim 6 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. New claim 15 has been added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, and 13 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Nishimoto in view of Roylance.

The present invention is intended to provide a mobile device that has keys for entering information. More particularly, the keys that are provided are the standard typewriter keys available on all typewriters and computer keyboards, however, the present invention relates to a handheld mobile device, there is not sufficient space to provide the standard keyboard arrangement. The present invention solves this problem by dividing all of the keys into two groups, as shown in Fig. 2, for example, and then folding each row of keys so that only half of the row is provided. Thus, a half row from group L and a half row from group R are arranged in an offset relationship, as shown in Fig. 3. The same approach is provided for the next row of keys. Thus, a half of a row of keys is offset relative to a second half of a row of keys, in each case. As a further distinguishing feature, in the present invention the spacing between each row of keys in the standard QWERTY keyboard is more than the spacing between each half row of keys arranged on the handheld housing. As a still further distinguishing feature, the keys are colored such that a complete row of the QWERTY keys is one

color that is different than the color of the next full row of QWERTY keys. As an alternative arrangement, each half row of keys has a different color in an alternating fashion.

The claims have been amended hereby to emphasize the above-noted features of the present invention.

Nishimoto relates to a personal digital assistant that has a liquid crystal display along with keys that can be used to enter the letters of the alphabet. See Fig. 3, for example, as representing the standard QWERTY keypad. There is no suggestion in Nishimoto of dividing the standard keypad into two groups and providing a divided keyboard. }

Roylance relates to a computer keyboard in which the space key is altered to permit different functions to be entered by the user touching the now divided spacebar with his thumbs. The keyboard of Roylance is the standard QWERTY keyboard in which each successive row of keys has fewer keys so that the keys are tapered in a downward fashion.

Accordingly, even combining Roylance with Nishimoto, we still do not have the feature of the present invention in which the keyboard is divided into two groups and then a portion of each group arranged on the front of the housing of the handheld device, as in the presently claimed invention.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 3, 4, 10, and 11 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable under Nishimoto in view of Roylance and further in view of Whitcroft.

Whitcroft is cited for its showing of a color coded

7217/64710

keyboard, however, Whitcroft does not cure the deficiencies of Nishimoto and Roylance concerning the division of the keyboard into two groups with rows of the groups being alternately arranged on the housing, as in the presently claimed invention.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 5, 7, 12, and 14 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Nishimoto and Roylance in view of Kono.

Kono is cited for the use of a touch panel screen that permits the user to enter and display information data on the screen. Nevertheless, Kono is silent concerning the arrangement of the keys on the front of the housing, whether the keys are actual mechanically depressible keys or the touch screen keys as in the claimed invention.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that a mobile device having a handheld housing with specially arranged keys placed on the housing, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims, is neither shown nor suggested in the cited references, alone or in combination.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

7217/64710

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jay H. Maioli".

Jay H. Maioli  
Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM:gr